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PRESS RELEASE

Veteran's Association Joins Anti-War Rally, Anti-War@Laurier (AW@L) Agrees to Move Rally Location

For Immediate Release

October 26, 2007

Royal Canadian Legion President and AW@L Members to speak against war at the Rally for the Pan Canadian Day of Action Against the War in Afghanistan

WATERLOO—Just before midnight last night, AW@L member Alex Hundert signed a deal with Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 530 President Jim Ashton. The deal was an agreement to move the rally for the Pan-Canadian Day of Action Against the War in Afghanistan away from the Veteran's memorial so that the Veterans Association could support the rally.

Hundert and AW@L member Jacob Pries met with Ashton and Legion treasurer, Nick Vander Meulen at the Legion on Regina and opened a dialogue that they all hope will continue into the future. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 530 and AW@L have agreed to work together to rally against war, and to support the message that, we can support our troops and still be against this war and against war in general.

The Pan-Canadian Day of Action Against the War in Afghanistan was called for by the Canadian Peace Alliance (www.acp-cpa.ca) in conjunction with an American National Day of Action Against the War in Iraq. The fundamental message of both rallies is, "Support Our Troops, Bring Them Home Now!" In addition, AW@L's message includes a recognition of the inherently destructive and unethical nature of all wars, and also of the ways that this war in Afghanistan is an unjust and immoral war; "reconstruction cannot be forced at gunpoint."

A March will be starting at 12 pm from the corner of Erb and Caroline, out front of the Canadian Clay and Glass Museum in Waterloo. There are expected to be over 100 students and community members marching to the main entrance of Wilfrid Laurier University, directly across from the new Canadian Veteran's Memorial. This location is symbolically

important because it is literally a location where students stand confronted by the tragedies of war. Joining AW@L and the Veteran's Association will be many students and student groups from Laurier, UW and Connestoga College, Community Church groups, local politicians, academics and teachers, the Raging Grannies, and other concerned citizens.

AW@L has worked in communication with the city, the police, and the university over the last couple of days to ensure that this rally will be peaceful and family friendly. While, AW@L is not officially affiliated with the University—it is a community group and a chapter of RAN (ran.org)—we have worked with the administration and the Student's Union to make sure that we could provide a peaceful dialogue and positive space for our rally.